

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A modular jack comprising a housing with a top wall having a pair of grooves provided on opposite sides thereof and equipped with a foolproof mechanism for preventing insertion of a modular plug having a number of poles that is not a predetermined number, said foolproof mechanism comprising:

a pair of spring members each having an elongated spring section provided in said groove, a fixing section provided at a rear end thereof and secured to said housing so that said elongated spring section is upwardly flexible, and an abutment section provided at a front end thereof, said abutment section having:

a cam portion extending first downwardly and then diagonally upwardly from said front end, forming made of an inclined face and

a stopper portion extending downwardly directly from said front end and located behind and inside said cam portion such that when a modular plug having said predetermined number of poles is inserted into said modular jack, a front end of said modular plug abuts on said inclined face of said cam portion to move said abutment section outwardly, permitting insertion of said modular plug into said modular jack but when another modular plug having a number of poles that is smaller than said predetermined number is inserted, a front end of said another modular plug abuts against said stopper portion to prevent insertion of said another modular plug.

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2. (original) The modular jack according to claim 1, wherein said spring member and said abutment section are made as a unit.

3. (original) The modular jack according to claim 1, wherein said spring members are provided along an outside of said housing.

4. (cancel)

5. (original) The modular jack according to claim 1 or 2, which further comprises a pair of slots provided in said housing into which said abutment sections are fitted for sliding movement along rear faces of said slots.

6. (original) The modular jack according to claim 1 or 2, which further comprises a shield plate over said housing from which said foolproof mechanism extends.

7. (new) A modular jack comprising:

a housing having a wall with a pair of grooves provided on opposite sides thereof and a plug cavity with a central section and a pair of side sections, said central section extending closer to said wall than said side sections, and

a foolproof mechanism provided in said housing for preventing insertion of a modular plug having a number of poles that is not a predetermined number, said foolproof mechanism comprising:

a pair of spring members each having an elongated spring section provided in said groove, a fixing section provided at a rear end thereof and secured to said housing so that said elongated spring section is outwardly flexible, and an abutment section provided at a front end thereof, said abutment section having:

a cam portion extending first inwardly and then diagonally outwardly from said front end, forming an inclined face and

a stopper portion extending inwardly directly from said front end and located behind and inside said cam portion such that when a modular plug having said predetermined number of poles is inserted into said modular jack, a front end of said modular plug abuts on said inclined face of said cam portion to move said abutment section outwardly, permitting insertion of said modular plug into said modular jack but when another modular plug having a number of poles that is smaller than said predetermined number is inserted, a front end of said another modular plug abuts against said stopper portion to prevent insertion of said another modular plug.

8. (new) The modular jack according to claim 7, wherein said spring member and said abutment section are made as a unit.

9. (new) The modular jack according to claim 7, wherein said spring members are provided along an outside of said housing.

10. (new) The modular jack according to claim 8, wherein said spring members are provided along an outside of said housing.

11. (new) The modular jack according to claim 7, which further comprises a pair of slots provided in said housing into which said abutment sections are fitted for sliding movement along rear faces of said slots.

12. (new) The modular jack according to claim 7, which further comprises a shield plate over said housing from which said foolproof mechanism extends.

13. (new) The modular jack according to claim 8, which further comprises a pair of slots provided in said housing into which said abutment sections are fitted for sliding movement along rear faces of said slots.

14. The modular jack according to claim 8, which further comprises a shield plate over said housing from which said foolproof mechanism extends.